

Message Text

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21

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AID-05

PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

OPIC-03 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 /060 W

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O 230647Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4867

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, USIRJC

SUBJ: US-IRAN FINANCIAL CONFERENCE

REFS: (A) TEHRAN 12347; (B) STATE 294194

1. HUSHANG ANSARY CALLED AMBASSADOR EVENING OF DECEMBER 22 TO SAY THAT HE HAD TALKED WITH AMBASSADOR ZAHEDI ABOUT THE QUESTION OF THE TIMING OF A US-IRAN BUSINESS COUNCIL MEETING AND A FINANCIAL CONFERENCE AND THAT ZAHEDI HAD REPORTED THAT DAVID ROCKEFELLER HAD INSISTED ON THE MARCH 1-2 DATES. ACCORDINGLY, IRAN HAS AGREED TO THESE DATES FOR THE FINANCIAL CONFERENCE AND CENTRAL BANK GOVERNOR MEHRAN WILL BE THE CHAIRMAN ON THE IRANIAN SIDE. BECAUSE OF CRITICALLY SHORT HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS, HOWEVER, THE CONFERENCE WILL HAVE TO BE HELD IN EITHER ISFAHAN OR PERSEPOLIS. IF THE DATE AND LOCATION ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE TO US, ANSARY SAID THAT THE IRANIANS WANTED IT MADE CLEAR THAT ANY SLIPPAGE WOULD BE AT OUR INITIATE. HE ADDED PARENTHETICALLY, HOWEVER, THAT IF ON REFLECTION WE FOUND THE LEAD TIME TOO SHORT, HE WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO POSTPONE THE MEETING.

2. COMMENT: THE INFORMATION ABOUT THE TIME IS, OF COURSE, DIAMETRICALLY OPPOSED TO WHAT ZAHEDI WAS REPORTED TO HAVE

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TOLD ROCKEFELLER, AS NOTED IN REFTTEL (B). ACCORDINGLY,

WE URGE THAT DAVID ROCKEFELLER BE CONTACTED DIRECTLY TO
SORT OUT THE QUESTION OF WHO SEEMS TO BE INSISTING ON
THE MARCH DATES AND WHAT IN FACT IS OUR PREFERENCE.
ALTHOUGH ANSARY MENTIONED BOTH THE BUSINESS COUNCIL MEET-
ING AND THE FINANCIAL CONFERENCE AT THE BEGINNING
OF HIS CONVERSATION WITH THE AMBASSADOR, IT WAS CLEAR
SUBSEQUENTLY THAT HE HAD ONLY THE FINANCIAL CONFERENCE
IN MIND.
HELMS

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